

REMARKS

The claims have been amended to eliminate multiple dependent claims, without prejudice.

Claims 1-24 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 25-48 have been added and are pending.

The specification has been amended to include a cross-reference to the parent application .

Return of an initialed copy of the attached PTO 1449 Form is requested.

Acknowledgement of receipt of the priority document from the IB is requested.

An early and favorable Action on the merits is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: _____

B. J. Sadoff

Reg. No. **36,663**

BJS:alb

1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor
Arlington, VA 22201-4714
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100